for project up to Rs. 1.00 lakh. Exemption from collateral in case of partnership project will also be limited to an amount of Rs. 1.00 lakh per person participating in the project.

(b) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY): USEP-No collateral required.

(c) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY): For individual loan up to Rs. 50,000 and for group up to Rs. 3 lakh-Assets created out of bank loan, mortgage of land, if assets are not created as in the case of land based activities or third party guarantee. For individual loans above Rs. 50,000 and group loans above Rs. 3 lakh, in addition to primary security, suitable margin money/other collateral security may be obtained at bank's discretion.

(d) Differential Rate of Interest (DRI): No collateral security/third party guarantee is required. Assets created out of the loan amount would only be hypothecated to the banks.

(e) National Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NSLRS)- Security for the loan will be only hypothecation of assets created out of the loan. The State Scheduled Caste Development Corporation will have second charge/pari-pasu charge over the assets to cover their margin money loan assistance.

Investments in oil exploration

198. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are presently importing nearly 70 per cent of its crude oil requirement and this would rise to 85 per cent by 2025;

(b) whether it is also a fact that over US $ 2.53 billion have already been invested in the blocks awarded in the first four rounds of bidding;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government had made bidding conditions more attractive for investors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir; at present India's import dependence on

crude oil is about 70% and as per current demand projections, on projected levels of domestic production, import dependence is expected to be about 85% by 2025.

(b) and (c) A total investment of about US$ 0.94 Billion has been made till 31-12-2004 in the 90 exploration blocks contracted by various companies in the first four rounds of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Apart from this, investments of about US$ 1.02 Billion and US$ 1.59 Billion have been made under Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) in pre-NELP exploration blocks and in discovered fields respectively.

(d) and (e) Government, in consultation with various stakeholders, undertake an exercise after the conclusion of every NELP bidding round to improve and bring greater clarity to bid documents and the bidding process. The main improvements in the NELP-V round are as under:

(i) Bid Evaluation Criteria (BEC) with all weightages for sub-parameters have been made public in the bid document.

(ii) Work programme of signed PSCs can be seen in data rooms.

(iii) Companies having net worth of US$ 500 Million or more in respect of onland and shallow water blocks are not required to submit bank guarantees as against the earlier net worth limit of US$ 1 Billion or more.

(iv) Regional data of adjacent blocks/region can now be purchased by interested companies.

(v) Government will now exercise its option to take gas in cash or in kind every five years instead of the earlier provision of such an option being exercisable every year.

Disinvestment of equity in BHEL and Maruti

*199. SHRIMATISARLAMAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for disinvestments of Government equity in blue chip PSU BHEL and Automobile joint venture Maruti etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is not a violation of commitment made in the Common Minimum Programme of Government not to disinvest profit making PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No specific decision has been taken with respect to disinvestment of Government